



UB Highlights

Vol. 8, No. 12

News & Events for August 1-15, 2011

Graduate Info Sessions

Tuesday, Aug. 2, 6-7:30 p.m.

Stamford Center

Prospective students are invited to 5 Riverbend Drive, Building 5, in Stamford, for information on the MBA, as well as programs in Education and Counseling, Human Resource Management. To register, visit

<https://www.formstack.com/forms/UB-GradInfoSess>.

Tuesday, Aug. 9, 6-7 p.m.

Waterbury Center

Information will be given on all Education programs, including tuition-free internships, being offered at the Waterbury Center, 84 Progress Lane. To register, visit

<https://www.formstack.com/forms/UB-GradInfoSess>.



Good News

➔ On June 17, UB announced an articulation agreement with the American University of Antigua (AUA) guaranteeing qualified UB graduates admission to the AUA medical school. The agreement also permits qualified pre-med graduates of the American International College of Arts and Sciences, Antigua (AICASA) admission into UB's B.S. in Biology, Health Sciences, or General Studies programs, starting this fall. Dean Stephen Healey noted, "This is a win-win for our two institutions. . . . The future belongs to those who collaborate."

➔ Under the Educational Talent Search program, UB has been awarded a five-year, \$1.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education for our ongoing work helping low-income Bridgeport students graduate from high school and go on to college.

➔ UB is one of four U.S. universities (with Oklahoma State University, University of Maryland, and Ohio State University) selected to participate in the 2012 eXploration Habitat (X-Hab) Academic Innovation Challenge led by NASA and the National Space Grant Foundation. UB students, advised by mechanical engineering professor Dr. Zheng Li will design habitats and science concepts that could be used by future deep space explorers. Our students will be responsible for designing, manufacturing, assembling, and testing all of their concepts and hardware.

UB'S CHINA CONNECTION

This summer, UB faculty and administrators have visited universities in China and hosted Chinese delegations in return.

David Kraft, professor of mathematics and physics, taught a five-week course in statistics (UB's Stat. 400) at Shanghai Dianji University, for students who plan to study for an MBA at UB. Prof. Kraft also attended a weeklong conference at Anhui Science & Technology University, where he presented several lectures on mathematics and (twice) delivered a lecture, "Einstein: Person of the Century," to large audiences of students and faculty. **Anita Kraft**, who accompanied her husband, developed a course in English essay writing which she taught to both Shanghai Dianji and Anhui students.



Yanmin Yu, professor of mass communication, taught two five-week courses in May and June at Jinjiang College of Sichuan University: "Understanding America," and "Intercultural Communication." During this time, Jinjiang College hosted a visit from UB students **Janneth Achury (IPED)**, **Christopher Besescheck (IPED)**, **Mariah Dookie (Psychology)**, **Yaditza Laviera (Mass Communication)**, **Carolina Lobato (Mass Communication)**, **Esteban Manco (Mass Communication)**, **Jonathan Schramli (IPED)**, and **Simone Thomas (Mass Communication)**. Six students from Jinjiang College, some of whom will attend UB in the fall, arrived in Bridgeport July 24 for a return visit. During their stay they will have classes at UB's English Language Institute and visit regional recreational and historical sites.



Xinlong Weng, visiting assistant professor of mathematics, and **Congsheng Wu**, associate professor of international finance, traveled in China for several weeks helping to establish student and faculty exchanges with universities. In June and July, President **Neil Salonen** visited 11 Chinese universities in 6 cities over 17 days, signing memorandums of understanding and initiating exchange programs for students and faculty. President Salonen also delivered a commencement address at Jinjiang College.



A delegation of faculty and administrators from Ludong University led by its vice-president, Liu Xinhua, visited UB for several days in July, refining exchange agreements. Student and faculty exchange programs were initiated earlier this year during a visit to Ludong by Provost **Hans van der Giessen**.

UB ACHIEVEMENTS & HONORS

STUDENTS & ALUMNI

ENGINEERING

Akashy Sheth and **Madhav Patil** won first prize for their paper, "Implementation of a Robotic Conveyor Assembly Line with a Vision Camera," in competition with 33 other university teams in the Research Paper Division at the Engineering Education (ASEE) Northeast Conference April 30-May 1. Prof. **Yakov Toporovsky**, was their advisor. UB engineering students also won second and third place in this division. In the Research Poster Division, **Richard Greenwood**, advised by Prof. **Elif Kongar**, won first place. UB teams also won second and third place in this division, as well as 4 honorable mentions. Overall, UB teams swept the top prizes in the competitions. This is the fourth consecutive year that our teams have won ASEE-Northeast's first prize.

Sarosh Patel, Ph.D candidate in computer engineering and science, and Prof. **Lawrence Hmurcik**, investigated a transformer on a telephone pole that caught fire and burned down the pole. No one was hurt. Was the fire an "act of God," caused by a lightning strike, or was it the result of poor maintenance of the cooling oil? In the former case, the power company pays for the cleanup; in the latter, the transformer manufacturer pays. After studying the maintenance records and measuring the oil at the scene, Patel and Hmurcik found poor maintenance was the cause. The transformer company paid.

NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

Maria Zangara, third-year doctoral candidate, has been awarded the first Brett Sacks Scholarship from the Institute for Human Individuality. Maria's essay, "The Digestion and Absorption of Fats," was selected based on the depth of her research and her clear understanding of the subject. The award entitles Maria to an all-expense paid trip to the Institute's fifth annual conference, where she will have the opportunity to advance her knowledge of epigenetics.

FACULTY & STAFF

CHIROPRACTIC

Stephen Perle, professor of clinical sciences, has been appointed an official spokesperson for the American Chiropractic Association.

ENGINEERING

Neal Lewis, associate professor of technology management, served as program chair of the Engineering Management Division at the American Society for Engineering Education National Conference June 26-29. With co-authors from the University of Alabama-Huntsville and the University of Alaska Anchorage, he presented the paper, "Time to Transition: Financial Calculators and Clickers in the Classroom."

Professor **Lewis**; **Jani Pallis**, associate professor of mechanical engineering; and **Navarun Gupta**, associate professor of electrical engineering, recently received an \$8,000 planning grant from the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance for their proposal, "Develop a Center for Student Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the CTech Incubator at the University of Bridgeport." The team will be working with **Gad Selig**, associate dean of business development.

INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Liane J. Leedom, M.D., adjunct professor of psychology, presented her abstract, "Are Humans Special? Understanding Primate Social Reward Systems," on UB Faculty Day April 30. Subsequently, her abstract was accepted for presentation at the September meeting, in Houston, of the American Society of Primatologists; and Dr. Leedom was invited to chair a session on primate social behavior.

NUTRITION INSTITUTE

David M. Brady, vice-provost for health sciences and director of the Institute, will be a plenary speaker at the American Association of Naturopathic Physicians Annual Scientific Symposium in Scottsdale, August 18-21. He will present the same speech, "Autoimmune Disease: Leaving the Era of Reaction and Entering the New Proactive Era of Prediction," at the Glacier Fest Annual Symposium on Nutritional Medicine in Glacier National Park (Montana) August 3-7.

Did we miss something? *UB Highlights* is published twice monthly during the academic year and monthly in January, June, and July to inform the University community about UB events and achievements. To comment or to list your event or award, e-mail Rebecca Salonen, UBHighlights@bridgeport.edu, or call x4988.